

would make you touch the paper with reverent hands."

Mr. Speaker, the Liberty Tribune can take pride in being an important part of the strong tradition of balanced, community-minded reporting of which Mr. White spoke so eloquently.

TRIBUTE TO VIRGIL FROST ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 27, 1996

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding public servant in northwest Ohio. On December 31, 1995, Virgil Frost retired from his position as a bailiff/probation officer for Bowling Green Municipal Court.

Virgil Frost was born in Athens, OH, and graduated from Athens High School. He received his undergraduate degree from Ohio University and completed his graduate work at Bowling Green State University. He is a member of the Masonic Lodge, the Ohio Correctional and Court Services, the Kiwanis, and the National Criminal Justice Honor Society.

Virgil can look back on his career with great pride. In all of his duties, he has demonstrated a commitment to hard work and honest public service. During the course of his service, Virgil has held positions as a social worker with the Maumee Youth Camp and as the director of the Wood County Adult Probation Department. Because of his extensive experience, he has become a recognized expert in many areas of law enforcement and has received numerous performance awards for his work. Through his caring and dedicated efforts, he has literally improved the lives of a tremendous number of Wood County residents.

Americans would not be able to enjoy the blessings of our country without the tireless dedication of those who have the talent and willingness to work for the community. It is for this reason we owe a special debt of gratitude to people like Virgil, who have done an outstanding job for northwest Ohio. While he may be leaving his official capacity, I know he will continue to be actively involved in those causes dear to him.

I ask my colleagues to join me in paying a special tribute to Virgil, his wife, Patricia, and their sons, Mike, Mark, and Mathew, and wish them all the best in the years ahead.

FAIRNESS TO MINORITY WOMENS HEALTH ACT; WOMENS HEALTH EQUITY ACT

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 27, 1996

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, domestic violence is an epidemic in our country. The statistics on family violence are staggering. Each year 4 million women are severely assaulted by their current or former partners. In fact, domestic violence is the leading cause of injury to women aged 15 to 44.

This national tragedy affects women from all social economic groups. However, poor immi-

grant women with children face unique challenges and bureaucratic hurdles. Under current law, legal residents who are in abusive relationships are not entitled to AFDC benefits or food stamps if they flee their homes to escape domestic violence. As a result, many women are forced to choose between feeding their children or being battered.

The current system has failed to provide protection and equity for battered immigrant women. This unfortunate situation had led me to introduce the Fairness to Minority Womens Health Act as part of the womens caucus' Womens Health Equity Act. My legislation would ensure that AFDC benefits and food stamps are granted to women and their children who escape domestic violent situations.

At times it is difficult for battered women to talk about domestic violence. This is especially true for language minority women who may feel intimidated by counselors who do not speak their language. My bill provides bilingual family planning and counseling services.

This legislation also calls for a study on violence in the lives of Latino women and their children. Gathering factual data on the causes and effects must be a priority if the true extent of the problem of violence is to be addressed.

Every woman should be able to escape domestic violence. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in sponsoring this historic piece of legislation. We must work to ensure that all women seeking safety for themselves and their children get the help they desperately need. It's an investment worth making.

TRIBUTE TO PRESIDENT GROVER CLEVELAND

HON. WILLIAM J. MARTINI

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 27, 1996

Mr. MARTINI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to President Grover Cleveland as we celebrate this year the 159th anniversary of his birth in the great State of New Jersey.

One of New Jersey's most famous sons, Grover Cleveland entered the public arena with plain, honest talk and unwavering, uncompromising principles. His forthrightness in telling the truth was overwhelmingly refreshing for his time. President Cleveland's blunt political style and sincere dedication to public service enabled him to enchant the American people.

During his first year in office, President Cleveland, still a bachelor, worked 18-hour days to prove to the American public that they had elected the right man for the job. In an era of low expectations for the Nation's Chief Executive, President Cleveland labored tirelessly to rejuvenate the prestige, honor, and authority of the Presidency.

After his failed attempt for reelection, Grover Cleveland never lost his zeal for reform or his resolve to succeed. Amazingly, he fully expected to be President once again; a feat in American politics equal to coming back from the dead. However, on the last day of President Cleveland's first term, his new bride, Frances, remarked to a White House staffer to take good care of the furniture because they planned to return in just 4 years from today. Indeed, 4 years later, President Grover Cleve-

land became the only President in American history to win a second term after a 4-year political hiatus.

Discipline, work, courage, perseverance, and honesty—these are the attributes associated with Grover Cleveland's legacy. I am proud to give praise and honor to President Cleveland's memory and his selfless service to our Nation.

AIDS NOW THIRD LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH IN YOUNG WOMEN

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 27, 1996

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I am reintroducing legislation today to address the need for increased research on HIV-AIDS in women and more targeted HIV-AIDS prevention and outreach efforts for women. Senator PAUL SIMON will be reintroducing the bills in the Senate in the next several weeks.

AIDS is now the third leading cause of death among women who are 25-44 years of age, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The two largest increases in 1994, the year covered by the latest statistics, were a 30-percent increase among white women and a 28-percent increase among African-American women. AIDS was the cause of death for at least one out of every five young African-American women.

Women of color have been most severely affected; while African-American women and Latinas account for only 21 percent of women in the United States, they make up 54 percent and 20 percent of cumulative AIDS cases among women, respectively.

Since I first introduced legislation addressing HIV-AIDS and women in 1990, we have made progress on these issues. The National Institute on Allergy and Infectious Diseases [NIAID] initiated the women's natural history study, the women's interagency HIV study, and has worked to increase the number of women in clinical trials. Both NIAID and the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development [NICHD] have increased the resources devoted to topical microbicide research. I commend the NIAID and NICHD for their efforts, and I urge the research community to continue the momentum in these directions. This year's research bill reflects the progress that has been made, and provides for additional funding to further these gains.

A major focus of our research bill continues to be funding for research on topical microbicides and barrier methods of protection from sexually transmitted diseases [STD's], including HIV, that women can use with or without their sexual partner's cooperation or knowledge. The development of a topical microbicide—a compound capable of preventing the transmission of HIV and a range of STD's—is critically needed and would revolutionize our U.S. and global HIV and STD prevention programs.

Current HIV prevention methods rely on the cooperation of male partners. Many women lack the power within relationships to insist on condom use, as well as the resources to leave situations that place them at risk. It is critical